

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/702,428

Examiner

Marc S. Zimmer

Applicant(s)

ARAI ET AL.

Art Unit

1712

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 05/17/05 and the interview conducted 07/06/05.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-6,8-16 and 18-20.
3. ☐ The drawings filed on _____ are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☒ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Deborah Herzfeld on July 6, 2005.

The application has been amended as follows:

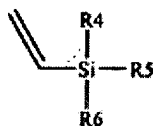
In claim 4, please move the phrase "the formula being" from right below the formula to directly above it.

In claims 9 and 19, please replace the word "contains" with

-- is --.

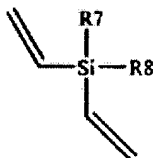
Please replace amended claim 14 with the following:

14. A method of manufacturing a proton conduction material comprising introducing a strong acid functional group onto a polymer derived from (i) a monomer having a vinyl radical, (ii) a monomer expressed by the formula expressed by the formula



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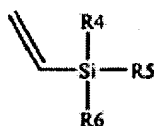
where R4, R5, and R6 are independent of one another and represent a hydrocarbon radical, a fluoro-substituted hydrocarbon radical, or a trimethylsiloxy radical, and (iii) a monomer expressed by the formula



where R7 and R8 are independent of each other and represent a hydrocarbon radical, a fluoro-substituted hydrocarbon radical, or a trimethylsiloxy radical.

Please replace original claim 20 with the following:

20. The method according to claim 14 wherein the monomer expressed by the formula



is vinyl triethylsilane, vinyl tris((trimethylsiloxy)silane, or vinyl-t-butyl dimethylsilane.

An explanation for why these changes were deemed necessary is provided in the attached interview summary.

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Applicant has amended the claims such that they not require that the triorganosilyl groups are present at the end of the grafted chains. Accordingly, the rejection under 35 U.S.C. 112, 2nd paragraph is hereby withdrawn.

Applicant has also amended claims 4 and 14 to further stipulate that the claimed polymer is prepared, at least in part, from the divinyl-diorganosilane originally depicted in claims 7 and 17. (Claims 7 and 17 have been cancelled.) The reference does not contemplate incorporating a monomer adhering to this structure into the polymers described therein thus the prior art rejections are, likewise, withdrawn.

An updated survey of the prior art did not yield a reference more germane than those already cited hence claims 1-6, 8-16, and 18-20 are deemed allowable.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Marc S. Zimmer whose telephone number is 571-272-1096. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday 8:00-4:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Randy Gulakowski can be reached on 571-272-1302. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

July 6, 2005

Mark Zimmer
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